



Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission



CENTURY FARM APPLICATION

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Ownership within the same family for 100 or more years by July 4, 1976 of at least 80 acres of the original Iowa farmland.
2. Present owner must be related to original owner.
3. Application must be notarized and submitted by July 4, 1975.

address

One Century Farm marker per farm will be furnished by Iowa Farm Bureau. Additional markers may be purchased upon request.

One Century Farm Certificate will be awarded per farm by Iowa Department of Agriculture. Additional certificates may be requested.

Living on the farm → Wilmer Theiss & Esther Theiss, RFD #2, Ft. Dodge, Iowa 50501
 Name of Present Farm Owner Robert Theiss & Dorothy Theiss, RFD #2, Ft. Dodge, Iowa 50501
 Mamie Theiss, 1425 6th Ave. No., Ft. Dodge, Iowa 50501

Address _____
 R.R. _____ P.O. _____ State _____ Zip _____

Address of Farm, if different from above _____
 R.R. _____ P.O. _____ State _____ Zip _____

Township Cooper County Webster

Number of acres in the farm at present 118+

Date of original purchase by member of your family 1863

Legal description of the land (from deed, abstract, or tax statement) _____

118+ acres Sec. Lot - 17 & 18,

Blk. Twp. - 89

Rng. - 28

List all family owners, to present, beginning with original:

NAME

RELATIONSHIP TO PRESENT OWNER

Theo Hawley and Wife } 1st. Owners
Angus McBane and Elizabeth McBane }

Christian Theiss & Anna Theiss - 1863 1st Family owners

Fred Theiss & Otilie Theiss - 1902 Fred is the son of Christian Theiss Wilmer

Wilmer Theiss and Esther Theiss Son of Fred Theiss & Otilie Theiss Robert

Robert Theiss and Dorothy Theiss Son of Fred Theiss and Otilie Theiss

Mamie Theiss Daughter of Fred Theiss and Otilie Theiss

NOTE: Request for additional information on reverse side.

APPLICATION FOR CENTURY FARM MARKER AND CERTIFICATE

Information you may be able to add to this form, while not essential to Century Farm Certification, will be most valuable to future historians. The questions below are offered only as a guide, so please feel free to add any other data, especially family or pioneer stories concerning the farm and area around it.

From whom was the farm purchased? purchased from the Angus McBane family. In 1863, the land known as government lots was
 How many acres were in the original parcel? In section 18¹⁷⁺ range 89 about 14 acres were
 purchased
 What was the cost of land per acre? The 14 acres cost \$500.00, or \$35.71 per acre.
 By 1874 He had acquired eighty acres with savings for that purpose.
 Where was the first owner born? Christian Carl Gustav Theis Sr. was born in Schlieven Machlenberg, Germany, Aug. 19, 1825. March 16, 1851 He set sail for America
 Where did he live prior to moving onto the farm? after 70 days arrived at New Orleans, up the river to Dubuque. Here he drove the stagecoach from Dubuque to Galena
 Was this a homestead? Yes. He was here in the troublesome times of the Spirit Lake Massacre. In 1857 he was married to Miss Anna Kreinbring at Dubuque
 Did the first owner farm the land? Yes they did, (then came to Fort Dodge
 No
 Did he engage in any trades or occupations other than farming? He farmed and with the assistance of two sons Chris and Fred, by 1900 he had added enough land as 255 aced.
He was the third son of the family, thought his success better in a new
 (In 1902 Christian passed away, 150 acres were willed to Fred.) (country.
 Is the original home, or any portion of it or other original buildings, still standing or in use? The original barn was built when Fred was seven years old in 1876. It was a combination of Cow barn on the east side, with wood stanchions, still being used for twelve cows. also room for six cows or calves. A drive-way for unloading hay Horse barn for four horses with grain bins in back. Buggyshed and then a corn crib to the west end of the barn. Built of Walnut lumber and pegs.
 When was the present home built? 1910 (Changes were made for milking cows in 1953
 Barn built by Geo. Young, father of Art &
 What are the farm's crops or products? Since dairying was carried on after 1920 this (Med. has been corn, oats, soybeans and alfalfa hay. Before this, raised beef
 Local newspaper to be notified of Century Farm designation did some milking and Fed Cattle.
The Fort Dodge Messenger of Fort Dodge, Iowa

I (we), _____
 being duly sworn, depose and say that the statements on this application are true and correct with regard to the land described above.

Wilmer Theis
 (Signature(s) of Applicant(s))

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of July 19 75.

My Commission expires

James J. Wilhelm
 Notary Public in and for the

September 30, 1976

County of Webster State of Iowa

Send to: Iowa Department of Agriculture
 State House, Des Moines, Iowa 50319
 Submit by July 4, 1975

